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The Beach Boys continue to produce good vibrations

The always-popular Beach Boys drew 12,000 loyal fans to a concert at The Forum here last night.

By JUAN RODRIGUEZ
of The Gazette

Between the Beach Boys and Long John Baldry there was 40 years of rock 'n' roll experience on the stage of the Forum last night.

Like most pop institutions, The Beach Boys defy time. They didn't have a hard time conjuring old memories of a type of music — the Southern California barbershop-surfing beat — that's no longer a factor on today's record charts. Nevertheless they attract large crowds (12,000 last night) of fans, young and old, for whom the Beach Boys are monuments.

Meanwhile, Baldry — one of the fathers of British rhythm and blues dating back to the late 1950s — has mounted his noisiest band yet in an effort to gain attention on the elusive big arena rock circuit.

Judging from last night's show, the Beach Boys sound fine by remaining exactly the same, while the Baldry band's frantic rock posturings hardly seem comfortable to the singer.

The Beach Boys were missing drummer Dennis Wilson, but former fill-in Bruce Johnston — the composer of the hit song *I Write the Song* — is back and the family musical institution continues undaunted, with the aide of a handfull of sidemen.

The group is led in silent fashion by Brian Wilson, the brainchild Beach Boy who ran into drug problems in the 1960s and never quite made it back. He sat hunched in an oversized yellow T-shirt at his white grand piano, a cigarette hanging from his lips. Occasionally he wandered off. Despite his somnambulent spirit, the audience accorded him reverential applause.

Lead singer Mike Love, wearing a white Stetson hat and a multi-colored Hawaiian beach shirt, was his usual adept self at getting the crowd involved. He is the consummate image of the tanned Californian who is in love with his success. He doesn't say much — other than spouting rather obvious slogans about surfing, driving cars or walking along the beach — but he commands the attention of a guru. Guitarist-singers Al Jardine and Carl Wilson appeared equally serene.

Backed by a sophisticated electronics system that virtually eliminated human error by burying it in echoes of sound, the Beach Boys put forth their distinctive style: closeknit barbershop harmonies on top of a simple backbeat.

Musically, the Beach Boys are not as exciting as they once seemed, yet they do manage to slickly evoke a unique style that remains original despite its dated qualities.

They blurt a stream of hit songs — *California Girls, Sloop John B, Darlin', Do It Again, Surfin' U.S.A., In My Room*, the variations seem endless — spiced with some newer less successful material. *I Get Around*, an ode to driving a convertible along the strip, simply sounds more urgent than the smug *Good Timing*. Which says a lot about the lasting appeal of the Beach Boys' 1960s *Good Vibrations*.

YOU BE THE CRITIC

The column where readers have their say

Readers are reminded that letters may be condensed at the editor's discretion. Send them to *You Be The Critic, Entertainments Dept., The Gazette, P.O. Box 6036, Montreal.*

'Alien' incohesive horror substitute

In reference to Dave Chenoweth's comments on the film *Alien* (June 30), I was quite disturbed indeed that a critic could be so shallow and blind.

As a film critic myself, and somewhat of a horror connoisseur, it is obvious that Mr. Chenoweth knows very little of both the art of horror and the components of a good film.

In reviews of several films, he mentions *Alien*, utilizing such phrases as "the most chilling film experience of the summer," and attempts to upgrade the picture by writing that *Prophecy* (another effort currently playing) is an exercise "in pure disgust rather than the horror of *Jaws* or *Alien*."

True, *Prophecy* may be a poor excuse for horror, but what we have in *Alien* is a gore-filled, boring, incohesive substitute for horror. The special effects were superb, but one sat in one's seat dreading the onslaught of another disgusting scene.

Other than the inspired acting of Sigourney Weaver, the pretty heroine, and the aforementioned magnificent effects, *Alien* bombed. True, Mr. Chenoweth, it did in fact smash box office records, but one could easily recognize it for the cheap, exploitative B-film it is.

BRAM EISENTHAL
Montreal

Give Stratford a chance

Although I am only 15 years of age and attending a local high school, I still feel that my knowledge of modern theatre is more perceptive than theatre critic Maureen Peterson's. The subject that I feel was badly mistreated by Miss Peterson was that of the Shakespearian Festival at Stratford, Ontario.

For her information, the Festival has been performing for 26 full seasons and I find that she criticizes the performances with too dim an outlook on this festival. There is one thing for certain: her criticism will not hurt Stratford's attendance whatsoever!

Miss Peterson attended the Festival in the early days in June. To criticize the performances at this point in time is cruel and inhuman. Realize that these actors, in June, had had very little preparation for these performances. Realize also that some of these actors are just beginning in the world of professional theatre, and some must play in several different shows throughout the season, memorizing the parts for each.

CLIVE SPIEGEL
Westmount

Why review bad albums?

After having read another of Juan Rodriguez' album reviews, I wonder what the point is in continually reviewing bad albums. Most of the albums he reviews are bad, why not review some of the good ones so that we can use his column as a shopping list?

Unless Mr. Rodriguez is strying to tell us no good albums are coming out. In which case, he obviously does not enjoy the medium. So why not get someone who does to do this column?

Mark D'Souza
Montreal.

Kelsey Jones motifs

Bruce Bailey's lack of critical judgment is blatant in his statement that Professor Kelsey Jones, eminent Canadian composer and teacher, writes "jazz versions of Bach's music" (The Sound of (New) Music, June 30).

In Kelsey Jones' *Jazz Opus Unum*, the piece to which Bailey is presumably referring, the use of motifs from the music of J.S. Bach is as little a mere variation of Bach as Woody Allen's *Play It Again Sam* is a mere variation on *Casablanca*.

CATHY NOLAN, DAVID EVANS
Montreal

• *Bruce Bailey replies: I have not heard this particular opus, but the description of the piece was offered by Kelsey Jones himself in a telephone interview.*

WHAT'S ON WEEKEND

Superman
See 'Repertory'

THEATRE

Phoenix Theatre, 1858 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. presents *Bullshot Crummond*, directed by Peter Lonergan and with Eve Robin, Samuel Stone, Alain Vandecruys and Eileen Lonergan. Tonight and Sun. 8:30 p.m.; Sat., 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., until July 29. Tickets $5, students and senior citizens $3.50. 931-0787.

Theatre d'ete le St. Laurent, 2405 ile Charron, Longueuil, presents *Double Jeu*, comedy-suspense written by Robert Thomas and adapted for stage by Jean Dumas. Cast includes Rejean Lefrancois, Janine Mignolet, Yvan Ducharme, Gabrielle Mathieu and Bertrand Gagnon. Tonight 7:30 p.m. and Sat., 7 p.m. and 10 p.m., until Sept. 1. For reservations: 651-5250.

Theatre du Nouveau Monde, 84 St. Catherine St. W. presents Denise Boucher's *Les fees ont soif* with Louisette Dussault, Sophie Clement and Michele Magny. Tonight and tomorrow 9 p.m. Tickets $4.50 to $7. 861-0563.

Actor's Studio, 7050 Victoria, Rm. 210, presents *The Odd Couple*, by Neil Simon. Tonight and tomorrow 8:30. Tickets $4.50; students $3.50. 342-4591.

La Poudriere, ile Ste-Helene, presents *In One Bed And . . . Out The Other*, until Aug. 4. Cast includes Joyce Campion, Graham Batchelor, Wendy Dawson, Dustin Wain, Ann Marie MacDonald and Mitch Martin; John Peters directs. Tonight 8:30 p.m.; Sat., 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. 526-0821.

Saidye Bronfman Centre Theatre, 5170 Cote St. Catherine Rd., presents Bernard Slade's *Same Time, Next Year*, starring Roger Dunn and Muriel Gold, directed by Robert Robinson. Sat. 8:30 p.m. Sun.: 7:30 p.m., until July 22. 739-2301.

Imperial Theatre, 1430 Bleury St. Earl Wilson's *Let My People Come*. Tonight and tomorrow 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.; Sun., 8 p.m. Tickets $10, $12.50, $15, at the box office. 288-7102.

OUT OF TOWN

Theatre du Manoir des Pins, Ste Lucie de Doncaster, presents *Est partie comme un p'tit poulet*. Cast includes Chantel Beaupre, Jean-Raymond Chales and Francois Trottier; music is by Luc Lafrance; adapted by Yves Bastien. Tonight through Sun., 8:30 p.m., until Sept 2. Produced by Corridor. Tickets $5, golden agers $4.25. 819-326-0002.

Theatre de la Feniere, 1500 La Feniere, Ancienne-Lorette, 7 miles west of Quebec City presents *Une nuit chez vous . . . Madame*, until Aug. 9. Tonight through Sun. 9 p.m. 872-1424.

L'Escale, St. Marc-sur-Richelieu, presents *Le bonheur d'Henri*, until Sept. 1. Directed by Gilbert Lepage and playwright by Elizabeth Bourget. Tonight 9 p.m.; Sat., 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. 584-2226.

Piggery Theatre, North Hatley, presents *Gee, Gertie* by Montrealer Victor Garaway. Tonight 8:30 p.m. and Sat. 6 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Tickets $6. 819-842-2191.

Labelle/Latraverse appear tonight and Sun. 7 p.m.; Sat. 7:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., until Aug. 12 at the Cultural Centre, Lake Masson, 414 Baron Empain, Ste. Marguerite, Exit 69, Laurentian Autoroute. 861-3988 or 228-2513.

Theatre d'Ete Le Dauphin presents *L'amour vous connaissez*, a comedy by Bill Manhoff with Claudine Chantel and Guy Godin. Tonight 8:20 p.m., Sat. at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m., until Sept. 1. Reservations: 478-4145, 600 St. Joseph Blvd., Drummondville.

The Ramones
See 'Clubs'

Theatre St. Sauveur presents *J'me sens drole*, a musical comedy by Gilles Richer with Michel Forget, France Costel, Hans Masson and Marc Legault. Tonight 8:30 p.m., Sat., 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. and Sun. 7:30 p.m., until Sept. 3. 22 Claude St. in St. Sauveur, Exit 60, Laurentians Autoroute. 227-3747.

CLUBS

Friar's Pub, 1445 Crescent St. **Tonight and tomorrow:** St. Agathe Flyers. **Sun.:** Short Notice. 849-9086.

The Maples, 121 Lakeshore Rd. in Pointe Claire. **Tonight through Sun.:** Skip Brokop. 694-2479.

Le Pretzel, 2112 Clark St. **Tonight and tomorrow:** The Ramones at 8 p.m. Tickets $6.50. 487-6547.

The Mustache, 1445 Closse St. **Tonight through Sun.:** Cheryl Lescom. 931-2575.

Rainbow Bar & Grill, 1430 Stanley St. **Tonight and tomorrow:** Limbo Springs. 849-8262.

Yakkity-Yak, 1240 Drummond St. **Tonight through Sun.:** The Backbeats. Admission: Fri. and Sat. $2.50. 866-6492.

Lancer Pub, 1240 Drummond St. **Tonight through Sun.:** Carl Peterson, Andy Vine and Duke Walker. Free admission. 866-6492.

F.M. Club, 1236 Drummond St. **Tonight through Sun.:** Omega. Admission: Fri. and Sat. $2. 866-6492.

Yellow Door, 3625 Aylmer St. **Tonight and tomorrow:** Penny Lang. Doors open at 8 p.m. 392-4947.

Rising Sun, 286 St. Catherine St. W. **Tonight through Sun.:** Betty Carter. Doors open at 8 p.m. 861-0657.

Stitches, 1470 Crescent St. **Sun.** Best of standup comedy, 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. No reservations. Admission: $2. For auditions phone: 842-3713.

St. James Pub, 2025 Drummond St. **Tonight through Sun.:** Gilt. 845-0797.

The Hunter's Horn, 1214 Peel St. **Tonight through Sun.:** Clahanes. **Sun.:** Peter Suttie upstairs in The Parlour. **Sun.:** Peter Suttie at the Horn in the afternoon. 861-8022.

L'Air du Temps, 191 St. Paul St. in Old Montreal. **Tonight and tomorrow:** Charles Papasoff Quintet. **Sun.:** Bug Alley Band. Admission: $2. 842-2003.

St. James Pub, 1197 University St. **Tonight and tomorrow:** Rick Tennant. 861-4662.

Cock 'n Bull Pub, 1944 St. Catherine St. W. **Tonight and tomorrow:** Bowser and Blue. **Sun.:** Al Peter's Dixieland Band, 9 p.m. 933-4556.

Golem Comedy Revue, 3460 Stanley St. A special club for CEGEP and university-age audience starring Howard Busgang and Howard Nemetz. Doors open at 8 p.m. Admission: $1.50. 845-9171.

FRIDAY

MUSIC

Paul Anka will appear at Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts at 6:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Tickets $8 to $15 at the box office. 842-2112.

Vocal Recital by Kenneth Jimenez, tenor, and Jennifer Giles, pianist, will perform Schumann's *Dichterliebe*, and works by Mozart and Ives: Morrice Hall, (across from 3480 McTavish) at 8:30 p.m. 392-4637.

OUT OF TOWN

National Arts Centre in Ottawa presents Mozart's *Cosi fan tutte*, in Italian, conducted by Mario Bernardi and directed by Jeannete Aster at 2 p.m.

AUDITIONS

Town Stage 12,001 De Salaberry Blvd. starts auditioning for season three. Call artistic director David Rimmer. 684-1022.

FILMS

National Film Board Pavilion in Man and His World presents the official film of the XI Commonwealth Games in Edmonton, *Going the Distance*, at 7:15 p.m. 283-4823.

REPERTORY

Cinema V (489-5559) Interiors, 7; Foul Play, 7:15; Preparez vos mouchoirs, 9:15; Murder by Decree, 9:45; The Rocky Horror Picture Show, midnight.

Outremont (277-4145) Let It Beatles! Magical Mystery Tour, The Beatles at Shea Stadium, and Back In The U.S.S.R., 7:30; Lisztomania, 10.

Seville (932-1139) Animal House, 7:15; Superman, 9:30; L'Histoire d'O, midnight.

SATURDAY

MUSIC

Paul Anka will appear at Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts, 6:30 p.m and 10 p.m. Tickets $8 to $15 on sale at the box office. 842-2112.

OUT OF TOWN

National Arts Centre in Ottawa presents Tchaikowsky's *The Queen of Spades*, conducted by Franz-Paul Decker and directed by Vaclav Kaslik at 8 p.m.

Orford Festival presents Alain Marion, flute, and Dalton Baldwin, piano. J.M.C. Orford Art Centre - Exit 118, Eastern Townships Autoroute. In Montreal phone: 271-2566.

Le Chant du Feu, presents classical music by Brahms, Satie, Vivaldi, Philidor, Hotteterre and Leclair at 8 p.m. 5 miles east of St. Jerome. 436-1304 or 866-8034.

ETCETERA

The Potter's Workshop will sell pottery from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visitors will be shown how pots are made. Roxham Rd., Hemmingford. 465-1791.

REPERTORY

Cinema V (489-5559) California Suite, 7; Quintet, 7:15; Gimmie Shelter, 9:15; Interiors, 9:45; Richard Pryor Live In Concert, midnight.

Conservatoire d'Art de Montreal (879-4349) It Happened One Night, 7; Andrei Roubliev, 9.

Outremont (277-4145) Let It Beatles! Magical Mystery Tour, The Beatles in Shea Stadium and Back In The U.S.S.R. 7:30; Lisztomania, 10.

SUNDAY

MUSIC

Roberta Flack appears at Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, 8:30 p.m. Tickets $8.50 to $12 on sale at the Place des Arts box office. 842-2112.

The Little Singers of Mount Royal under the direction of Gilbert Patenaude, presents *Missa Je bien que j'ay* by George Goudimel and *Psalm 23*, 11 a.m. at St. Joseph's Oratory, 3800 Queen Mary Rd. 733-8211. Raymond Daveluy, organist, will also perform, 3:30 p.m. at the Oratory.

Concert of Baroque Music, Wendy Burger, soprano, Hank Knox, harpsichord, perform works by Monteverdi, Purcell, Couperin, Bach and Fuchs. 8:30 p.m. at the St. George's Church - corner of La Gauchetiere and Stanley Sts. Tickets $3.50, students and senior citizens, $2.

OUT OF TOWN

Vermont Recital Associates Donna Grey, soprano, John Baird, baritone, Catherine Baird and Joyce Flanagan, pianists perform Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* and Donizetti's *Don Pasquale, starting at 2 p.m. Four Winds Gallery, 15 miles south of Burlington and one mile east of Route 7. Free admission.* 802-862-6344.

Gospel Singers in the Town of Pike River, five miles from the U.S. border on Route 133, Eastern Townships. 674-0350.

AUDITIONS

Phoenix Theatre, 1858 de Maisonneuve Blvd. will be holding auditions for the musical revue 1927 and also its upcomimg season at 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. 931-0787.

REPERTORY

Cinema V (489-5559) California Suite, 7; Halloween, 7:15; Psycho, 9:15; The Warriors 9:45.

Conservatoire d'Art de Montreal (879-4349) Mr. Smith Goes To Washington, 7; Solaris, 9:15.

Outremont (277-4145) Les Yeux de Laura Mars, 7; L'Aventure c'est l'aventure, 9:30.

Ouimetoscope (525-8600) Mort sur le Nil, 2, 4:30, 7, 9:30; Le tournant de la vie, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45.

Seville (932-1139) Watership Down, 4:45; Superman, 6:45; Interiors, 9:30.

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